A MONUMENT TO TREIR MEMORY.

MISTORY OF THE SACRIFICE OF NEARLY 12,000 REVOLUTIONARY PRISONERS. subject of a monument in honor of the Revolutionary marityrs who perished miserably in the British prison ships moored in Wallabout Bay while the War of Independence was fought to its close, has been revived in Brooklyn, and petitions are in circulation asking Congress to appropriate \$100,000 for the purpose of its erection. The matter has been taken up by the members of

he Society of Old Brooklynites, who feel that there should be a suitable memorial in konor of these dead patriots, whose bones repose in a vault in the hillside at Fort Greene, a spot which overlooks the place where

When the British and Hessian forces landed at Grave when the British and Hessian forces landed at Grave-send, Bay in 1776 and marched to Brooklyn, there were several transport ships left at Gravesend until Washing-ton and his troops had been compelled to cross the East River to their retreat. These ships then were moored in Wallabout Bay, the waters of which covered part of what is now the New York Navy Yard. It was found that they made convenient receptacles for the prisoners captured on land and sea in the engagements between the American and the Royalist forces. The torrors of the prison ships soon beca se the greatest incentive to the American forces to fight to the death rather than submit to imprisonment.

But a great body of patriotic and brave men were con

fined in those " floating bells." as they were termed, and many thousands of them died there.

THEIR SUFFERINGS WERE INDESCRIBABLE. The best informed historians assert that the sufferings of the men from their confinement, caused by the overcrowding, bad food, lack of medical attendance and the crucity of the guants, have not been exaggerated by those who were fortunate enough to escape or survive their treatment to the end of the war. Anything was thought good enough for the rebels, as their captors termed them, and it was hoped that they could be terrified into owning allegiance to King George.

But to the honor of the brave prisoners be it said that only one instance of recreasey is recorded. The rest, to the number of thousands, preferred to perish rather than forswear their faith in liberty. One of these vessels known as the Jersey, was regarded as more abominable than the others, and over 1,000 prisoners were confined in the stiffing hold at once. As fast as death created vacancies they were filled by fresh vic-tims. The dead were carried to the saudy snore of the bay and buriet in shallow trenches. In the pestilential places of confinement afforded by these vessels, it is little wonder that the mortality was enormous. No accurate figures were ever ascertained as to the number of the dead, but at the close of the war it was estimated that not less than 11,000 or 12,000 brave soldiers died In the noisome dungeons and were buried in the Long

The washing waves soon bared their benes, and for nearly thirty years after the close of the war, in 1783, they were the sport of the tides and bleached in the sun in the lonely store. The first attempt to care for them was made by John Jackson, who purchased a farm, in ciuding the shore of the Wallabout, in 1792. He collected the bones which had been exposed by the cie-ments and proposed to give them decent burial.

BURIED WITH FITTING HONORS.

The villagers in town-meeting decided to bury them In the graveyard attached to the Dutch Reformed Church east of the City Hail, but Mr. Jackson had other plans. He induced the Tammany Society, of which he was a member in this city, to take up the matter, and offered a site for a tomb at Front and Jackson sts., on his estate, at what is now Front st. and Hudson-ave., close to the Navy Yard wall, below the York-st.

The sachems of Tammany took up the matter and with pomp and parade at the corner-stone laving and opening imposing tomb was erected in 1808. In it were placed all the bones which could be found, the quantity filling twenty hogsheads. They were placed in thirteen huge coffins and with eight pall-bearers each were borne to what was supposed would be their final resting place. Governor Tompkius, Mayor De Witt Clinton and other dignitaries, tegether with Grand Sachem Romaine, of the Tanmany Society, or the Columbian Order, took part in the elaborate ceremonies, and a funeral oration was pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin De Witt,

The Government had purchased part of Mr. Jackson's farm for a Navy Yard, but the tomb was not included in the reservation where it might have been safe from deseeration, and when the grade of Jackson st. was altered the ground surrounding the tomb was encrowched upon and the tomb itself was permitted to fall to pieces. It is said that the site was even sold for taxes. At any rate it pussed into the possession of Benjamin Romaine, who had been interested in its erection. He repaired the tomb and kept it in order, and when he died in 1844 his body was laid in the vault. An effort was then made to get Congress to provide for the care of the sacred relies of the Revolutionary heroes, but without success, and ten years later the Martyrs' Monumental Association was formed by emment citizens of New-York and Brook-

It was proposed to raise \$75,000 by popular subscriptions and to ask Congress to appropriate \$25,000 more to erect a monument that might carry to future generas a suitable record of the virtues of the men who had suffered so much for freedom's sacred caus

pated, and in the stirring times preceding the outbreak of another war for freedom it was dropped. But the tomb in Hudson-ave, fell into such decay that something parade plaza and between the rows of steps leading to the summit of the hill. Here, in 1873, the bones, incased in twenty-two new coffins, were laid at rest. Since that time the vault has been once opened and mere bones, found in excavating for a sewer in the Navy Yard, were put with the others.

found in excavating for a sewer in the Navy Yard, were put with the others.

The plan for a monument, now taken in hand by the Society of Old rooklynites, provides for the erection of a tower on the highest point in Fort Greene Park, sommanding a fine view of portions of the two cities and the Upper Bay. It will be 165 feet in helynt and 36 feet upper Bay. It will be 165 feet in helynt and 36 feet upper Bay. It will be 165 feet in helynt and 36 feet upper Bay. It will be 165 feet in helynt and 36 feet upper Bay. It will be 165 feet in helynt and 36 feet upper Bay. It will be 165 feet in helynt and 36 feet upper Bay. It will be 165 feet in helynt and 36 feet upper Bay. It will be 165 feet in helynt and 165 feet upper Bay. It will be provided the top, the sides well be lighted by windows and the top enrice wherein the lives of the thousands of prisoners were sacrificed. A stairway and an elevator will lead to the top, where an outlook will be provided beneath the doms, which will rest on corinthian columns.

Space is to be provided in the upper part of the structure for the exhibition of any trophies or memorials of the Revolution which may be desired to be placed there and which visitors would wish to see. The monument is to be built of rock-faced quincy granife. About the base will be placed thirteen bronze tablets, bearing the coars of arms of the original thirteen states, and there will be suitable inscriptions over the entrance. A representation of the Jersey prison halk will be carved in stone on one side of the monument. Already many thousands of names have been signed to the petition, asking Congress for the appropriation. It is urged with reason that these prison-ship martyrs belonged to the whose country, and represented all the original States, and that honoring their themory is a duty that devolves upon the Nation at large. As they are buried in Brooklyn, there the memorial should rise which will transmit the lessons of their fate to future generations, albeit their names are lost in the lapse of time

INSCRIPTION ON THE ORIGINAL TABLET. It probably is not generally known that the tablet placed over the original tomb of the prison-ship martyrs in Brooklyn is still in existence. It consists of a block of red sandstone about four feet by three feet in size. legible. The stone is in the possession of article to Benson, or the Brooklyn Gaslight Company, who some years ago placed it at the disposal of Colonel John Y. Culyer, formerly Superintendent and Chief Engineer of the Brooklyn Parks, whenever it could be permanently affixed to any structure to be erected to the memory of the martyrs. The inscription will be of interest to many people, and it is accordingly reproduced here in full:

Sacred to the memory of that portion of American seamen, soldiers and citizens who perished in the cause of liberty and their country on board of the prisch-shaps of the British (during the Bevolutionary War) at the Wall-about. This is the corner-stone of the vault which contains their relics, erected by the Tammany Saciety, or the Columbian Order of the City of New York, the ground for which was bestowed by John Jackson.

Nasang Island. Season.

N assat I sinut- Season of Blossoms. Year of discovery the 316th, of the Institution the 19th, ad of Americae independence the 22d. April the 6th, 1806.



Wall-about Commistee.

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CLCRK, PORFER of DRIVER—By an active, print of driver; good pennas, dc., anxious to work for a living; can apeak Swedish, raginal and German, references. A. E. P., Tribune Office. CUTTER and DISIGNER.—By a thoroughly competent and experienced cutter and designer from best city house, by the day; references. ABILITY, Tribune Uptewn office, 1,238 Broadway.

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Only three remaining not sold on West End-ave. of this row of 10 houses. Apply to

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Houses at all times open for examination. DOWNTOWN investment property; two val-quals corners, one on Chambers, and one forther down; well rested, wall located, paying property; to prin tipuls only. Address A.B.C., Box 40, Tribune Office. FOR SALE.—Superb house, north corner Madison-ave, and 69th-st., 27375, beautifully finished; will be sold low. Apply on premises or to CHARLES BUEK & CO., 500 Madison-ave.

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Anction Sales of Real Estate.

RICHARD V. HARNETT & CO., Auctioneers, Will sell at aucton Thursday, Feb. 2.

at 12 o'clock acon, at the Real * state Exchange
and Auction Room, 50 to 65 Liberty-st.,
TRUSTEES* SALE,
southwest cor. Collister'st., between Greenwich and Hudcontinued at Sale acon Sis.
6-story and cellar warehouse, 60x100 feet. Liberal terms.
Lease at \$6,000 to May, 1895.

MONDAY, FEB. 6. Executors' sale. Estate Scabory Browster, 627 and 629 Broadway, 196, 188 Mercer-st.

SUPREME COURT PARTITION SALE. SUPREME COURT PARTITION SALE.

3tave and distate, southwest rorser.

5-story and cellar browns one a artment with stora.

173 South-at, near Rocsevelt sl.

4-story brick tenement with store. 17.10762 3919 9265.2.

195 -outh-at, corner Oliver-at.

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WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8. 231 West 22d-st., 4-story dwelling.

TRURSDAY, FEB. 9.

THURSDAY, FEB. 9.

BY ORDER OF JULIUS J. FRANK. ESQ.. TRUSTEE,

12, 14, 16, 18, 29, 22, 24, 26 West 120th size eight 3-stery brownstene realisences.

66 West 57th size,
66 eight 4-stery brownstene realisences.
Park ave and 58th size, south west corner,
complete and hundroune private stable.

97th size ween Malison and 5th avol.,
plot of 3 lots, 25x100.11 each.

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plot of 4 lots, 109x100.5.

Central Park, west 103d to 104th size.
plot of 8 lots.

L Road station at 104th siz. Central Park, west, north of 106thsize, Courte leading attention, full lot 25x100 feet.

105th-size, North Side, west of Central Park, west,
75x100.11 feet and 3 gores.

Maps at Auctioneer's, 73 Liberty-st. 74 TH-ST., No. 23, bet. Madison and Park area, at auction y ADRIAN H. MULLER & SON, No. 1 Pine-st., on January 25.

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